

- Marine mammals may be found on the beaches of Fort Story and Fort Eustis and are listed as federal threatened and endangered species and may not be handled or removed, except by certified wildlife professionals who possess appropriate permits to do so.
- Avoid leaving pet food, bird seed, and trash around that will attract mammals to residences.

INJURED – SICK – DEAD WILDLIFE

- Should NEVER be handled.
- Injured and sick wildlife are most likely to cause serious injury or transmit diseases if handled.
- Contact Conservation Branch personnel immediately!!!!

ZOONOTIC DISEASES

- Rabies is the most likely wildlife disease to affect humans.
- Only mammals can carry the Rabies virus.
- Vector species include Raccoons, Foxes, Skunks, Bats, and Groundhogs, as well as dogs and cats.
- Rabies is fatal to humans.

CONTACTS

Contact the following Conservation Branch staff or PMO in the event of wildlife emergencies, events, or questions:

James Dolan

Installation Wildlife Biologist

757-878-4152 x24

757-621-7218 (duty hours only)

Tim Christensen

Chief, Conservation Branch

757-878-4152 x21

Yardley Butt

Pest Management

757-878-4152 x27

Terry Sanders

Installation Forester

757-878-4152 x26

DPW Service Desk

878-HELP (after duty hours only)

PMO:

757-878-4555 (Fort Eustis)

757-422-7143 (Fort Story)



Fort Eustis & Fort Story **Wildlife** **Concerns and Nuisances**



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- ALL wildlife are afforded legal protection.
 - Wildlife CAN NOT be killed or captured, without a permit. Only Conservation Branch staff possesses such permits.
 - DO NOT attempt to raise orphaned or injured wildlife; only state licensed wildlife rehabilitators are allowed to keep/raise wildlife.
 - NEVER feed wildlife.
 - DO NOT capture any wildlife to keep as pets.
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BIRDS

- Some species of birds begin to nest as early as March.
- Active bird nests, defined by the presence of eggs, chicks, or nesting adult(s), can not be destroyed or moved, unless under permit.
- Birds nesting in trees, bushes, or on the ground should be avoided to minimize disturbance.
- Most nuisance bird complaints in homes are European Starlings or English House Sparrows.
- Baby birds found on the ground generally do not need human intervention.
- Baby birds that are naked and/or covered in down may need human

intervention, but baby birds fully feathered (fledglings) will spend 2-4 days hopping around on the ground as they learn to fly and do not need human intervention.

SNAKES

- No venomous snakes are known to inhabit Fort Eustis.
 - Water moccasins (cottonmouths) are venomous snakes that do inhabit Fort Story, but are found primarily in swampy areas of the installation.
 - Snakes will defend themselves if agitated.
 - Snakes can be gently coaxed to leave an area.
 - Most snakes found in and around buildings are black rat snakes and black racers; both are non-venomous.
 - Snakes of any type should never be handled.
 - Snakes DO NOT chase people, but are merely trying to get away.
 - Snakes are beneficial for pest control.
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TURTLES

- Turtles are most frequently found in spring and summer.
- Turtles found digging in an area are preparing to lay eggs and once laid, they will vacate the area.
- Only snapping turtles become aggressive when approached.
- Snapping turtles should never be handled, as they can reach 2/3 the

length of their shell (carapace) and have a bite strong enough to break fingers and puncture palms.

- Sea turtles may be found on the beaches of Fort Story and are listed as federal threatened & endangered species and may not be handled or removed, except by certified wildlife professionals who possess appropriate permits to do so.
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MAMMALS

- Numerous mammals are found on both installations throughout the year.
- Most mammalian young are born in spring and early summer.
- Mammalian young are rarely orphaned.
- Mammalian young found alone are not orphaned and should not be disturbed or handled.
- When humans take mammalian young they are “kidnapping a mother’s child”.
- Frequent mammal species found near humans are raccoons, opossums, deer, squirrels, & foxes.
- Raccoons, opossums, deer, and foxes are active from dusk to dawn, but may be seen occasionally during daylight hours.
- Mammals should never be approached.
- Sick or confused mammals should be reported to Conservation Branch personnel immediately.